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Economic and Social Council

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Agenda item 15
United Nations research and training institutes

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Jean-Marc Hoscheit (Luxembourg), on the basis of informal consultations

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 51/188 of 16 December 1996, 52/206 of 18 December 1997, 53/195 of 15 December 1998, 54/229 of 22 December 1999, 55/208 of 20 December 2000, 56/208 of 21 December 2001, 57/268 of 20 December 2002, 58/223 of 23 December 2003, 59/252 of 22 December 2004, 60/213 of 22 December 2005 and 62/210 of 19 December 2007 and its decision 61/542 of 20 December 2006,

Welcoming the decision to streamline the reporting arrangements of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/210,

Recalling in particular paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 62/210,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Noting that the Institute is self-funded to date, not receiving any kind of subsidies from the United Nations regular budget, and delivers, free of charge, training courses to diplomats and delegates accredited to United Nations Headquarters in New York and to the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi,

Stressing that core diplomatic training offered by the Institute is a service accessible to diplomats of the entire membership of the United Nations and strengthens capacities of diplomats to perform their multilateral duties,

Noting the solid overall financial situation of the Institute, with a projected increase of funding of at least 26 per cent between the previous and current bienniums, and expressing its appreciation to the Governments and private

[1] E/2008/72.

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institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

Noting also that, despite the growing need for training and capacity development, voluntary contributions remain at a low level, putting at risk the training courses that the Institute delivers to diplomats and delegates accredited to United Nations Headquarters in New York and to the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi,

Reiterating that training and capacity-development activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs, and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

1. *Acknowledges* the progress made by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, in light of the strategic reforms introduced by its Executive Director and endorsed by its Board of Trustees, for the Institute to be a centre of excellence;

2. *Also acknowledges* the work of the Board of Trustees and welcomes the contributions of its newly reconstituted membership with respect to guiding the Institute through its reforms;

3. *Considers* that the core diplomatic training offered by the Institute is unique in its beneficiary base and its reliance on United Nations expertise;

4. *Notes with concern* that a lack of voluntary contributions could lead to a cessation of this service which is particularly important for the training of delegates from developing and least developed countries;

5. *Appeals*, in this regard, to the Institute to continue its fund-raising strategy and to all Governments, in particular those of developed countries, and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute, to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that have interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in view of the Institute's strategic reforms;

6. *Requests*, in this regard, the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the issue of financing the core diplomatic training activities of the Institute.